

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR1943.

Fleet, Hants.

August, 1944.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Area of the District is 3,694 acres.

Estimated population by Registrar General	-	8,032.
Number of inhabited houses	-	2,338.
Rateable value	-	£76,895.
Penny Rate	-	£318/2/8d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The District is largely residential, there are no important industries.

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>LIVE Births.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	-	139.	73.	66.
Illegitimate	-	19.	9.	10.

Birth Rate 19.67

<u>STILL Births.</u>				
Legitimate	-	3.	1.	2.
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-

DEATHS. 121.Death Rate 13.8

The respective rates for England and Wales were:-

	<u>Birth Rate 16.5</u>	<u>Death Rate 12.1</u>
Maternal Mortality Rate	-	Nil.
Infants died under 1 year	-	3.
Rate per 1000 births	-	19.17

The Public Health was good during the year 1943.

The undernoted cases of Notifiable Diseases occurred during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	-	-	12.
Measles	-	-	71.
Pneumonia	-	-	14.
Diphtheria	-	-	3.
Tuberculosis	-	-	4.
Erysipelas	-	-	3.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	3.
Whooping Cough	-	-	19.
Chicken Pox	-	-	1.

There were 19 deaths from Cancer.

Vaccination. Thirtyfive successful Primary Vaccinations and four successful re-vaccinations were done during the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

There are two District Nurses, who are qualified Midwives, provided by the District Nursing Association; no contribution is made by the Local Authority.

The Fleet Hospital contains 29 beds (9 male, 14 female and 6 children's) and 5 private wards, and provides treatment for Medical and Surgical cases and a separate children's ward. A financial contribution is made by the Local Authority.

The Hospital provides adequate service for the District and is thoroughly up-to-date in all departments; it is well equipped for Surgical, Ophthalmic, Aural and General Work. Massage is also provided.

Infectious cases are treated at Aldershot Civil Isolation Hospital under a joint scheme.

Tuberculosis cases are referred to the County Authority for Sanatorium, or in the case of Surgical Tuberculosis, hospital treatment.

Abnormal Maternity cases are treated by the consulting Gynaecologist at the Local Hospital.

Services for Puerperal Fever, Mental Deficiency, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Venereal Disease and Mental Diseases are provided by the County Council.

There is a Clinic for Venereal Disease at Aldershot, which is easy of access.

The prophylactic inoculation of infants and children against Diphtheria, which is provided free of cost by the Council, has resulted in 213 children having had the full course of immunisation.

Three cases of Diphtheria occurred during the year, all of them in non-immunised persons.

Very few cases of Scabies occurred and no case of Venereal Disease came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health.

Pathological work is done at Winchester, both for the District and also for Hospital cases.

When desired the assistance of the County Authority is available for the investigation of Maternal Mortality and cases of Puerperal Fever.

Unmarried Mothers are provided for by the County Council.

The Civil Defence Ambulances are available for the conveyance to Hospital or elsewhere of non-infectious cases: by an arrangement with the Farnborough U.D.C. infectious cases are conveyed to Hospital by that Authority's Ambulances.

There is a Child Welfare Clinic provided by the County Council.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is much appreciated and very well attended.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1,836 out of 2,338 houses in the District are now connected with the Main Sewerage System. No further comment is necessary as things have not changed materially since the last Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

The housing shortage then referred to still exists and is even more acute.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Mid Wessex Water Company supplies the whole area, the supply being sufficient, constant and of good quality.

It is rather hard, total hardness (Clark's Scale) last year averaging 14.6 (The statutory total hardness limit of 12 has been relaxed by the Ministry of Health during the War).

The water is not liable to have any plumbo solvent action.

With the exception of 60 houses (0.025 of the total) which get their supplies from wells, all houses are supplied directly from the works.

The well water is of good quality and except, in cases of severe and prolonged drought, sufficient in quantity.

The Sanitary Inspector, Mr C.H. Longhurst, continues to carry out all his duties with zeal and efficiency.

H. M. Mackenzie.

Medical Officer of Health.

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., C.I.E..

